How Was S&E Space Utilized?

In 1994, the total space devoted to S&E fields, including both instruction and research, comprised 55 percent of the total academic space at the nation's research-performing institutions (Table 1-2).

Table 1-2. Science and engineering (S&E) research space utilization: 1994

Institution type	S&E space As a percentage of total academic space	Research space	
		As a percentage of total S&E space	As a percentage of total academic space
Total	55	45	25
Doctorate-granting:			
Top 100 in research expenditures			
	65	53	34
Other	50	38	19
Nondoctorate-			

The ratio of S&E space to total academic space varied by the type of institution. The top 100 universities devoted 65 percent of all academic space to S&E. Nondoctorate-granting institutions used 35 percent of their total academic space for S&E fields.

The percentage of S&E space that was used for research also varied. In the top 100 institutions, 53 percent of their S&E space was devoted to research; in other doctorate-granting institutions, 38 percent of the S&E space was devoted to research; and nondoctorate-granting institutions devoted 17 percent of the S&E space to research.

Has the Amount of S&E Research Space Increased?

Since 1988, the amount of S&E research space has increased steadily, from 112 million NASF in 1988 to 127 million in 1994. (See Table 1-3 on the following page.) These numbers represent a total increase of approximately 13 percent.